

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 14 are pending. Claims 1-8 and 14 are rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-8 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Scott et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,484,260; hereinafter “Scott”) in view of Nagashima, Takayuki (EP 0851629; hereinafter “Nagashima”).

Claim 1 recites, in part, “storing synchronizing information, which changes when a portion of the important information is updated, in the database together with the important information, and encrypting the synchronizing information”, “distributively storing the encrypted synchronizing information in a plurality of predetermined places”, and “combining and decrypting the synchronizing information stored in the predetermined places and determining whether the combined synchronizing information is identical to the synchronizing information stored in the database”.

The Examiner maintains the basis for rejecting claims 1-8 and 14 as in the Non-Final Office Action of March 22, 2006. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that the ID code associated with the PID corresponds to the “important information” of claim 1. The Examiner asserts in the most recent action that “the user code and the corresponding synchronizing information is different for each PID and changes/updates when the PID... changes which means when the ID code changes because each PID has its own ID code”. See Office Action at pg. 3. However, this still does not address Applicant’s previously presented argument that the ID code of a user device cannot change. If the ID cannot change, it cannot be updated. The Examiner appears to

be confusing updating a memory location with updating data saved in the memory location. The ID of a PID is always the same. If a new PID is saved with a corresponding ID, the ID information of the previously saved PID does not change. Applicant submits that the Examiner's discussion of the technical features of Scott, i.e., "the ID "changes/updates when the PID... changes which means when the ID code changes because each PID has its own ID code", do not appear in the reference.

The Examiner also asserts that Applicant is attacking the references individually, however, Applicant clearly asserted in the response the neither Scott nor Nagashima, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests all of the features of the claim.

With regard to claims 2-8 and 14, Applicant submits that these claims are at least patentable by virtue of their dependency on claim 1.

Yet even further, Applicant submits that claim 1 describes that **synchronizing information, which changes when a portion of the important information is updated, is stored in the database together with the important information and the synchronizing information is encrypted**. In the storing step, the encrypted synchronizing information is distributively stored in predetermined places. The synchronizing information stored in predetermined places is combined and decrypted, and it is determined whether the combined and decrypted synchronizing information is identical to the synchronizing information stored in the database.

In the personal identification system of Scott, a portable, hand-held personal identification device is for providing secure access to a host facility. The hand-held personal identification device transmits encrypted synchronization counter information with an input

identification code, when the input identification code is correct. Accordingly, the host facility verifies not only the input identification code but also the synchronization counter information.

In the key management method of Nagashima, pieces of secret information (key) are distributively stored. The pieces of secret information (key) are collected and used.

The background of the present invention is very different from that of Scott.

Furthermore, with respect to claim 1 of the present invention, the **synchronizing information changes when a portion of the important information is updated.**

However, Scott **does not disclose or suggest** that the synchronization counter information changes when the input identification code is updated.

The synchronizing information of the present invention is very different from the synchronization counter information of Scott.

Additionally, an object of the present invention can be to provide a method for **efficiently determining whether the encrypted information has been hacked.** However, the combination of Scott and Nagashima can not achieve the above exemplary object of the present invention.

At least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-8 and 14 are patentably distinguishable over Scott and Nagashima, either alone or in combination.

Request for Reconsideration and Allowance

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 10/074,044

Docket No. Q67312

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


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Date: September 17, 2007